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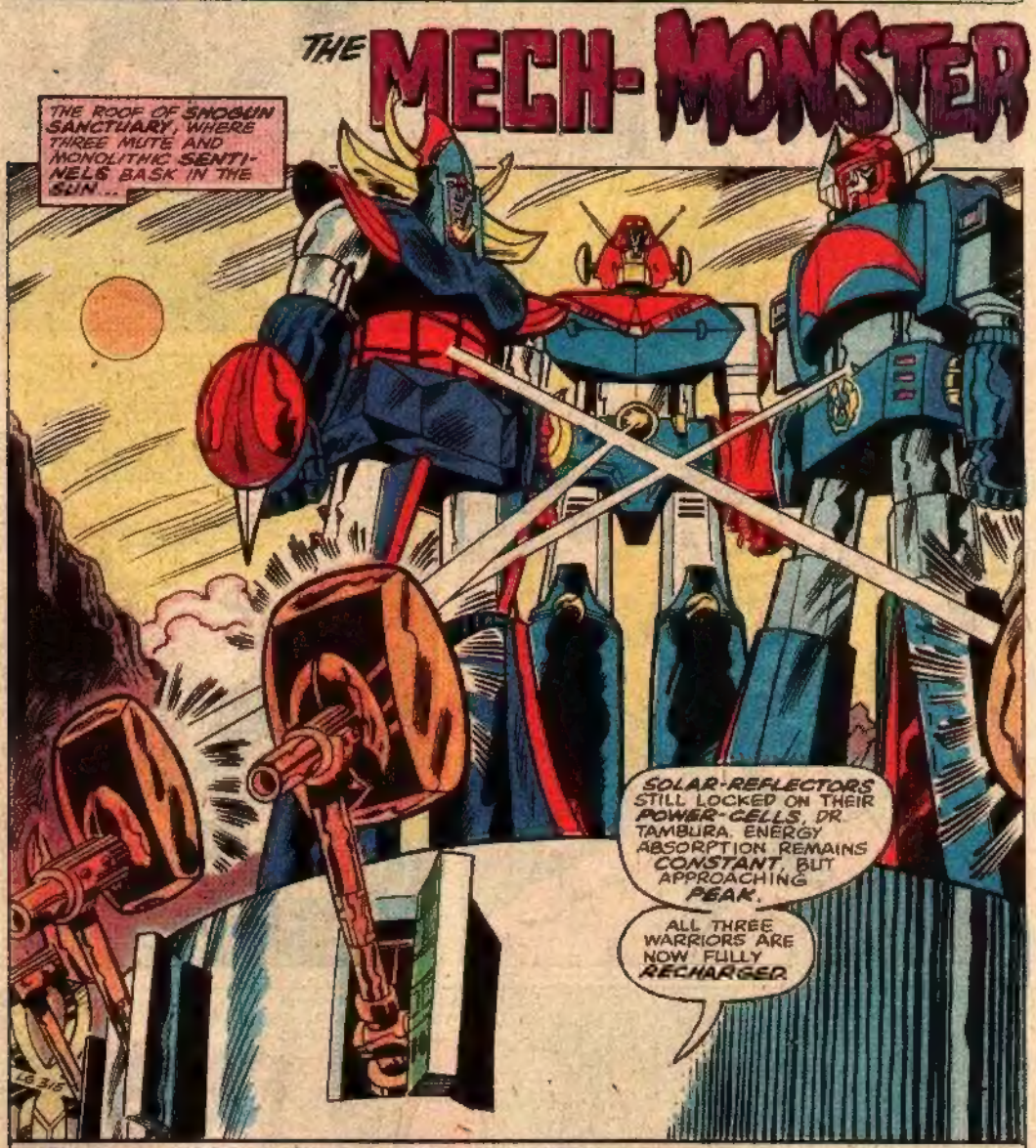
SHOGUN WARRIORS™
IT'S COMBATRA TIMES FIVE!
MENACE OF THE MECH MONSTER!

From an ancient sanctuary hidden in the mountains of Japan come Raydeen, Combatra and Danguard Ace— giant robots operated by three courageous humans, Richard Carson, Genji Odashu, and Ilongo Savage — ready to fight the forces of evil wherever they arise!

STAN LEE PRESENTS: SHOGUN WARRIORS™

THE MECH-MONSTER


THE ROOF OF SHOGUN SANCTUARY, WHERE THREE MUTE AND MONOLITHIC SENTINELS BASK IN THE SUN...
SOLAR-REFLECTORS STILL LOCKED ON THEIR POWER-CELLS, DR. TAMBURA. ENERGY ABSORPTION REMAINS CONSTANT, BUT APPROACHING PEAK.
ALL THREE WARRIORS ARE NOW FULLY RECHARGED.

DOUG MOENCH WRITER | HERB TRIMPE ARTIST | DAN GREEN INKER | JIM NOVAK LETTERER | ANDY YANCHUS COLORIST | ALLEN MILGROM EDITOR | JIM SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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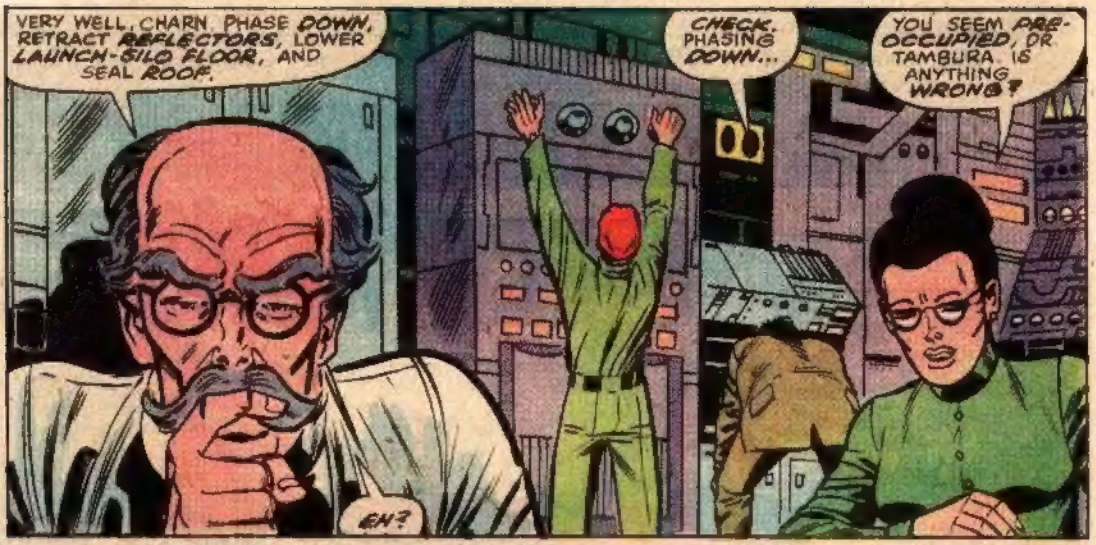

VERY WELL, CHARN. PHASE DOWN, RETRACT REFLECTORS, LOWER LAUNCH-SILO FLOOR, AND SEAL ROOF.
CHECK. PHASING DOWN...
YOU SEEM PRE-OCCUPIED, DR. TAMBURA. IS ANYTHING WRONG?
EH?

NO... NOTHING, SHERNA. JUST PONDERING MAURKON'S NEXT POSSIBLE MOVE... AND WONDERING IF WE'LL BE READY FOR IT.
AT LEAST OUR THREE FRIENDS HAVE AGREED TO REMAIN HERE AT SANCTUARY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS OF FURTHER STUDY AND DRILL...
ENERGY OVER CUT OFF SW
SOLAR OUTPUT LEVEL
ENERGY STEP-UP COIL

"WE HAVE SELECTED WELL, INDEED, WE COULD NOT HOPE TO FIND AGENTS ANY BETTER THAN RICHARD CARSON, ILONGO SAVAGE, AND GENJI ODASHU."
THIS TRAINING CENTER IS A GAS!

RAYDEEN..MISSILE.. PHASE..
TARGET MODE
43210...FIRE..
SOME HOMEWORK! JUST LOOK AT THE WAY RAYDEEN'S MISSILE-BOW TRACKS THAT TARGET!
SO MANY THINGS I CAN'T WAIT TO TRY OUT.
RICHARD CARSON MAY GET HIS WISH SOONER THAN HE SUSPECTS...

...IN THE SUBTERRANEAN HAUNT OF EVIL, HEADQUARTERS OF LORD MAUR-KON AND HIS FOLLOWERS OF DARKNESS...
...BEG YOU TO RECONSIDER, MAUR-KON, THIS ONE LAST TIME.
AND I INFORM YOU, LIEUTENANT MAGAR, ALSO FOR THE LAST TIME--THE MATTER IS SETTLED.

THE OLD WAYS OF SORCERY SERVED US WELL -- IN THE OLD TIMES. BUT NOW, IN THIS NEW AGE ON EARTH, OUR SORCEROUS CREATIONS HAVE BEEN DEFEATED BY THE FORCES OF SCIENCE -- BY THE GIANT ROBOTS SERVING TAMBURA AND HIS FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT.
THUS, IT IS TIME TO FIGHT THE FORCES OF GOOD ON THEIR OWN TERMS -- BY EMPLOYING SCIENCE OURSELVES.

BUT MAUR-KON, BY FORSAKING THE ARCANE RITES OF EVIL, WE SHALL FOREVER LOSE THE POWER OF SORCERY AND--!
I WILL MAKE THAT DECISION, MAGAR!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

MEANWHILE, SHOGUN TRAINING CONTINUES ON THE SANCTUARY MONITOR SCREENS...

RAYDEEN FLIGHT MODE

CONVERSION TO: FIREHAWK

BANGARD ACE FLIGHT MODE

CONVERSION TO: DREADNOUGHT-TITAN

DELTA-V ONE (HEAD)

COMBATRA SEPARATION AND ATTACK MODE

GROUNDROVER FIVE (FEET:COMBINED)

SKYSKATER TWO (CHEST/THORAX)

EARTHMOVER THREE (LOWER TORSO/ABDOMEN)

TURBOSTREAKER FOUR (PELVIS/LEGS)

GENJI ODASHU SIGNALS A BREAK...

I HAD NO IDEA COMBATRA IS COMPRISED OF FIVE SEPARATE COMPONENT VEHICLES -- LIKE AN INTERLOCKING *JIGSAW PUZZLE.*

YEAH, THESE ROBOTS SURE ARE *WILD.* ALL RIGHT -- NEVER WOULD'VE *BELIEVED* I'D BE IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS. BUT I'M STARTING TO GET HOMESICK -- OR *WORK-SICK* MAYBE.

HOW ABOUT *YOU,* SAVAGE? YOU'VE GOT A PRETTY *FAR-OUT JOB...*

I SUPPOSE, CARSON... BUT IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT? IT SEEMS WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER *FOREVER,* AND YET WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT EACH OTHER'S *REAL LIVES...*

IT'S CALLED CAMARADERIE-- AND IF THIS MAUR-KON DUDE KEEPS AT IT, WE'RE GONNA GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER REAL WELL. BUT TELL US ABOUT YOUR WORK, SAVAGE.
VERY WELL...
"... BUT TO USE YOUR TERMINOLOGY, CARSON, I WOULD CALL IT A 'FAR IN' JOB.
OCEAN
"I'M AN OCEANOGRAPHER, AS YOU KNOW, BASED ON THE COAST OF MADAGASCAR. THE WATERS THERE ARE ESPECIALLY CLEAR, AND WELL-SUITED TO MY PURPOSES.
"AT THE MOMENT, I'M ENGAGED IN THE SEARCH FOR PREVIOUSLY UNDISCOVERED DEEP SEA LIFE FORMS.
"IT'S AN AWESOME PURSUIT, FOR IT IS CONDUCTED IN A REALM OF SILENT, MUTED, BEAUTY...
"... ALMOST FORBODING BEAUTY.
"THERE IS A DEGREE OF DANGER, OF COURSE, AND SO A DEGREE OF FEAR.
"BUT THERE IS ALSO THE THRILL OF GOING WHERE NO ONE ELSE HAS EVER GONE, OF FINDING SOMETHING COMPLETELY NEW, SOMETHING NEVER DREAMED OF BEFORE.
"INDEED, I KNOW WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE BOTH A PIONEER AND AN ALIEN INVADING A HOSTILE WORLD.
"FELLOW RESEARCHERS MAKE UP MY CREW, AND AMONG US THERE IS ALSO A GOOD DEAL OF CAMARADERIE. YOU MUST MEET THEM SOMEDAY.
"MY IDOL, BY THE WAY, IS COUSTEAU...

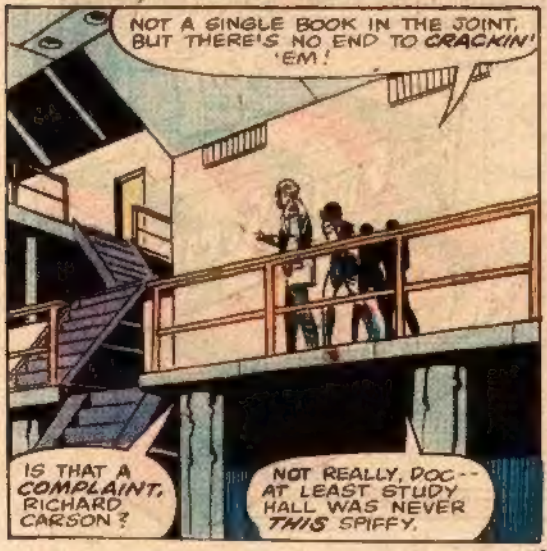
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

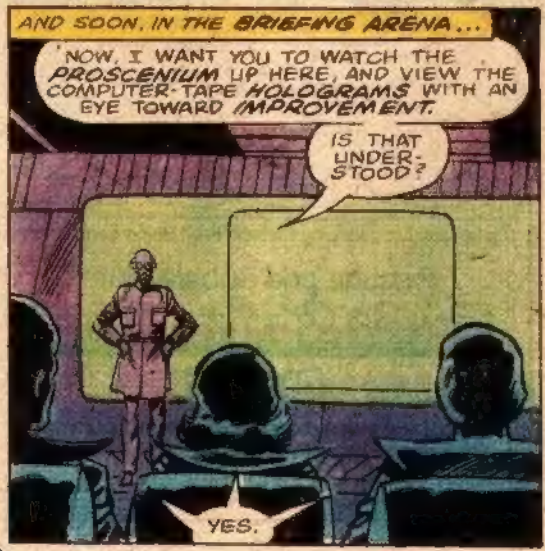
"BUT I ALSO KEEP ABREAST OF THE WORK DONE BY OTHER MARINE BIOLOGISTS. WHEN WEATHER CONFINES US TO THE RESEARCH CENTER, I INVOLVE MYSELF IN THE ATTEMPT TO... AH, COMMUNE WITH DELPHINIDAE.
MARINE RE

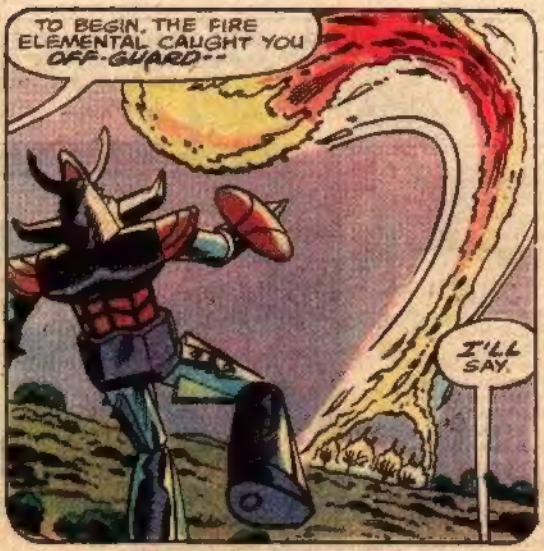
SO YOU SEE, JOHN LILLY'S GOT NOTHING ON ME AND MY DOLPHIN.
YOU'RE PUTTIN' US ON.
COME DOWN TO THE CENTER AND YOU'LL SEE -- THE DOLPHINS AND I WILL STAGE A DUET FOR YOU.

THEY LAUGH, FEELING EVEN CLOSER... AS DR. TAMBURA ENTERS...
IF YOUR REST PERIOD IS OVER...
...AND THEY GROAN.

--I'D LIKE YOU TO GO OVER THE COMPUTER-TAPES OF YOUR FIGHT WITH THE ROK-KORR ELEMENTALS.*
*LAST ISSUE --ARCHIVIST AL.

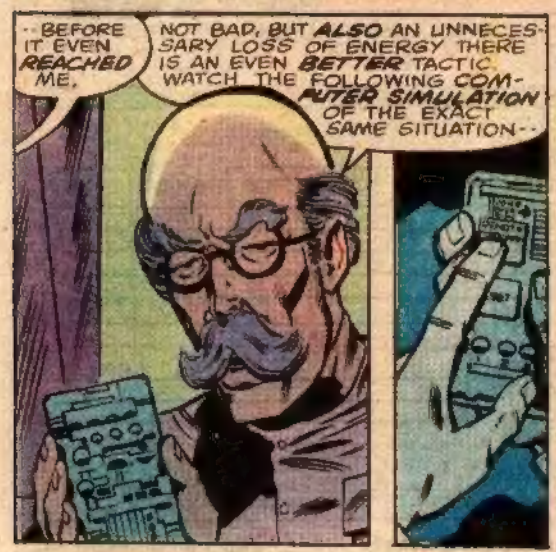

NOT A SINGLE BOOK IN THE JOINT, BUT THERE'S NO END TO CRACKIN' 'EM!
IS THAT A COMPLAINT, RICHARD CARSON?
NOT REALLY, DOC -- AT LEAST STUDY HALL WAS NEVER THIS SPIFFY.


AND SOON, IN THE BRIEFING ARENA...
NOW, I WANT YOU TO WATCH THE PROSCENIUM UP HERE, AND VIEW THE COMPUTER-TAPE HOLOGRAMS WITH AN EYE TOWARD IMPROVEMENT.
IS THAT UNDER-STOOD?
YES.



--ENGULFING YOU IN A BALL OF FLAME.
YOU ESCAPED BY ACTIVATING YOUR BOOT-JETS AND RETALIATED WITH A SCREAMER-HAWK MISSILE-- BOTH GROSS EXPENDITURES OF ENERGY.

"BUT WITH THE ADDITIONAL KNOWLEDGE YOU NOW POSSESS, HOW WOULD YOU HANDLE THIS SITUATION DIFFERENTLY?"
WELL, DOC, I SUPPOSE I'D USE RAYDEEN'S 'CUSSION SHIELD TO DISPERSE THE FIREBALL--


--BEFORE IT EVEN REACHED ME.
NOT BAD, BUT ALSO AN UNNECESSARY LOSS OF ENERGY THERE IS AN EVEN BETTER TACTIC. WATCH THE FOLLOWING COMPUTER SIMULATION OF THE EXACT SAME SITUATION--

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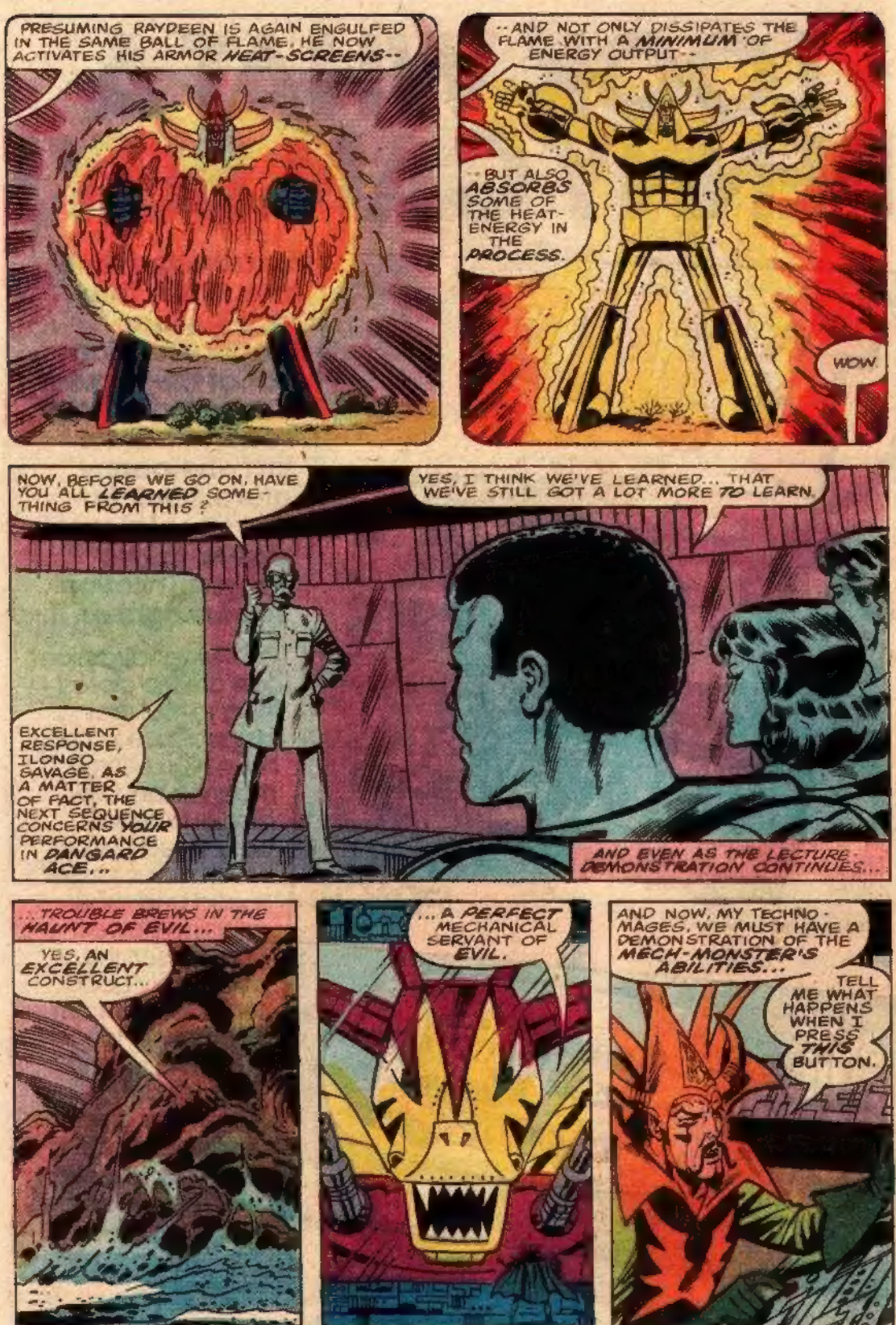
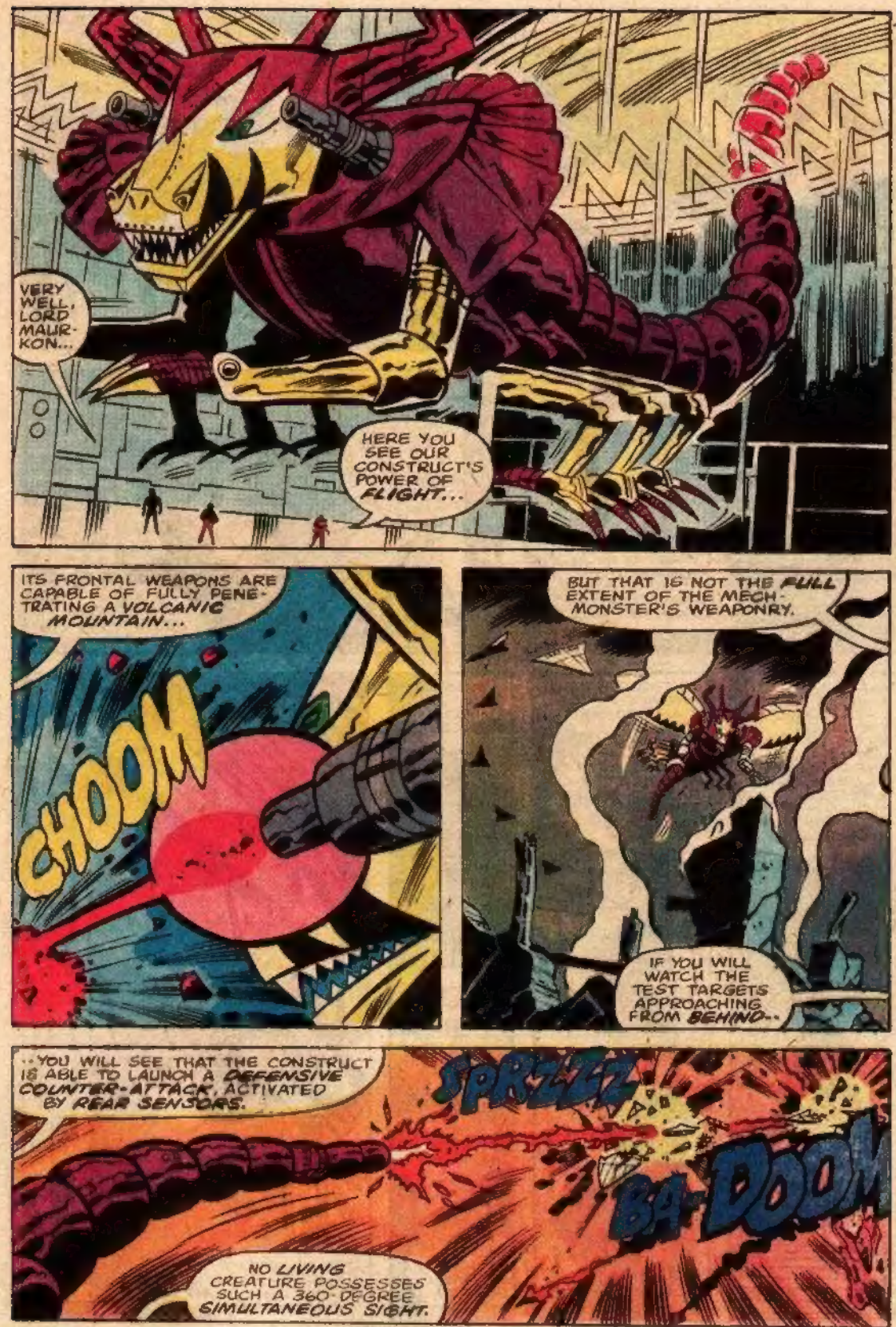
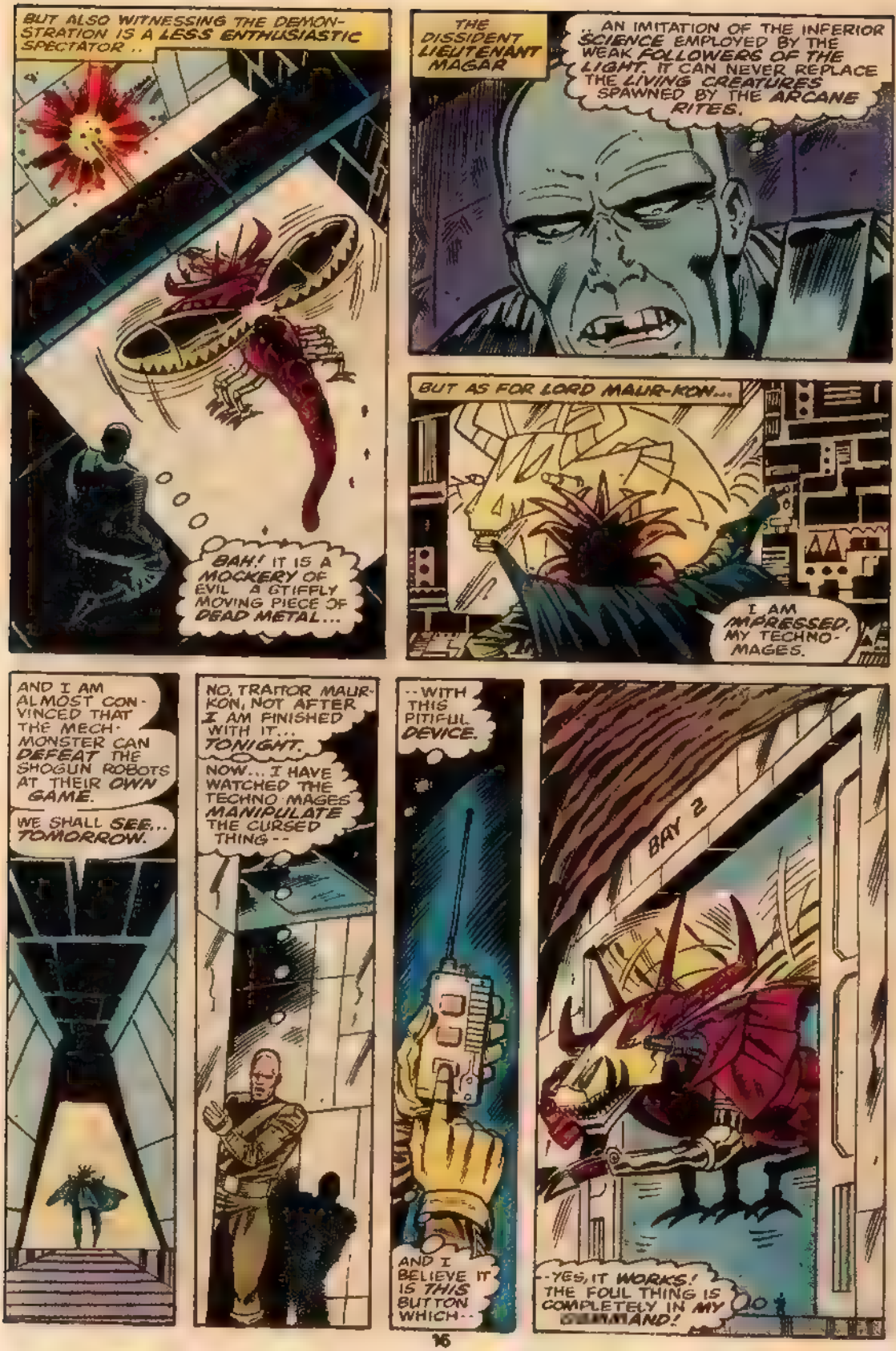
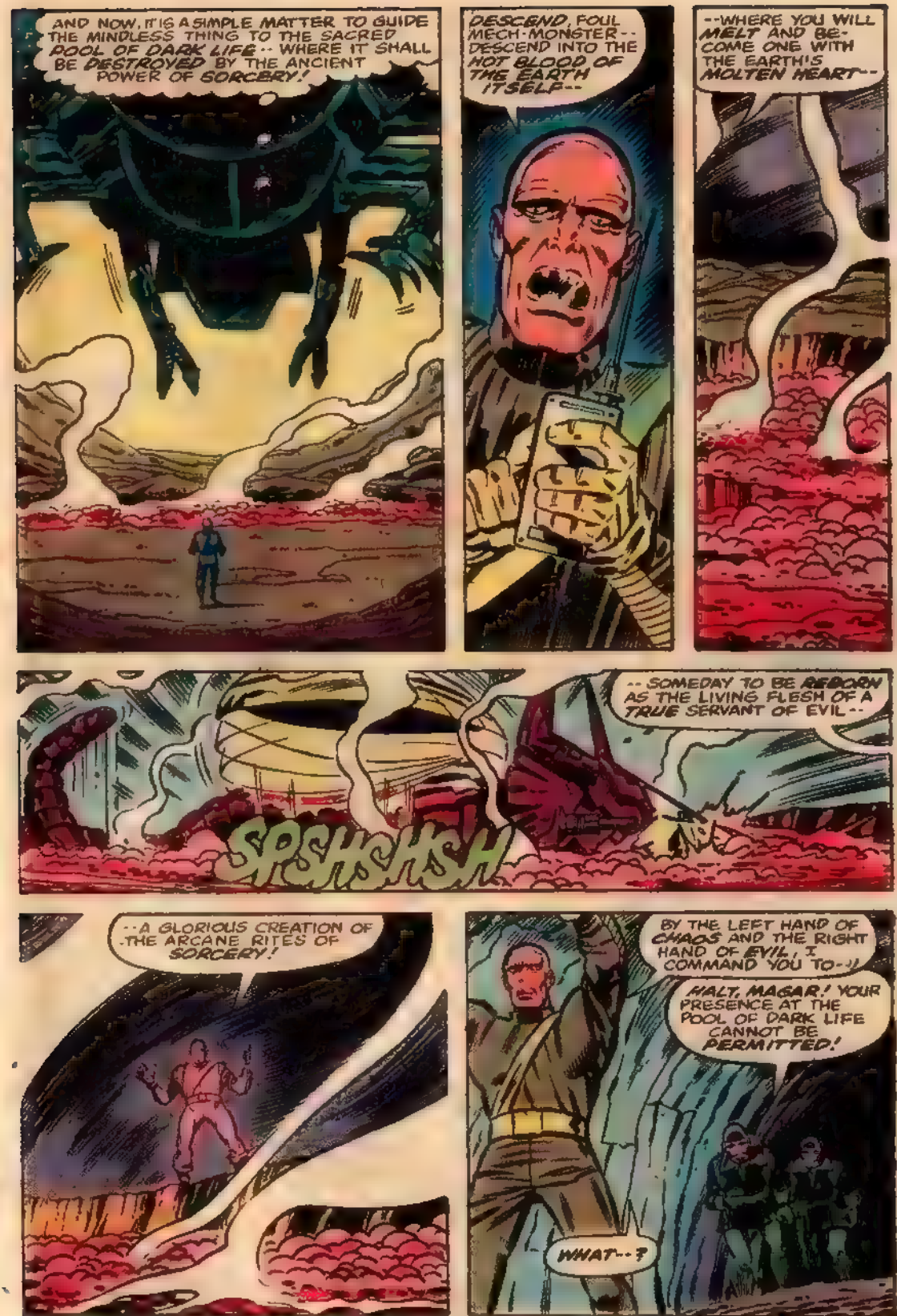

PRESUMING RAYDEEN IS AGAIN ENGULFED IN THE SAME BALL OF FLAME, HE NOW ACTIVATES HIS ARMOR HEAT-SCREENS--
--AND NOT ONLY DISSIPATES THE FLAME WITH A MINIMUM OF ENERGY OUTPUT--
--BUT ALSO ABSORBS SOME OF THE HEAT-ENERGY IN THE PROCESS.
WOW.
NOW, BEFORE WE GO ON, HAVE YOU ALL LEARNED SOMETHING FROM THIS?
YES, I THINK WE'VE LEARNED... THAT WE'VE STILL GOT A LOT MORE TO LEARN.
EXCELLENT RESPONSE, ILONGO SAVAGE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE NEXT SEQUENCE CONCERNS YOUR PERFORMANCE IN DANGARD ACE...
AND EVEN AS THE LECTURE-DEMONSTRATION CONTINUES...
...TROUBLE BREWS IN THE HAUNT OF EVIL...
YES, AN EXCELLENT CONSTRUCT...
...A PERFECT MECHANICAL SERVANT OF EVIL.
AND NOW, MY TECHNO-MAGES, WE MUST HAVE A DEMONSTRATION OF THE MECH-MONSTER'S ABILITIES...
TELL ME WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I PRESS THIS BUTTON.


VERY WELL, LORD MAURKON...
HERE YOU SEE OUR CONSTRUCT'S POWER OF FLIGHT...
ITS FRONTAL WEAPONS ARE CAPABLE OF FULLY PENETRATING A VOLCANIC MOUNTAIN...
CHOOM
BUT THAT IS NOT THE FULL EXTENT OF THE MECH-MONSTER'S WEAPONRY.
IF YOU WILL WATCH THE TEST TARGETS APPROACHING FROM BEHIND...
...YOU WILL SEE THAT THE CONSTRUCT IS ABLE TO LAUNCH A DEFENSIVE COUNTER-ATTACK, ACTIVATED BY REAR SENSORS.
SPRZZZ
BA-DOOM
NO LIVING CREATURE POSSESSES SUCH A 360-DEGREE SIMULTANEOUS SIGHT.


BUT ALSO WITNESSING THE DEMONSTRATION IS A LESS ENTHUSIASTIC SPECTATOR ..
BAH! IT IS A MOCKERY OF EVIL — A STIFFLY MOVING PIECE OF DEAD METAL...
THE DISSIDENT LIEUTENANT MAGAR
.. AN IMITATION OF THE INFERIOR SCIENCE EMPLOYED BY THE WEAK FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT. IT CAN NEVER REPLACE THE LIVING CREATURES SPAWNED BY THE ARCANE RITES.
BUT AS FOR LORD MAUR-KON...
I AM IMPRESSED, MY TECHNO-MAGES.
AND I AM ALMOST CONVINCED THAT THE MECH-MONSTER CAN DEFEAT THE SHOGUN ROBOTS AT THEIR OWN GAME.
WE SHALL SEE... TOMORROW.
NO, TRAITOR MAUR-KON, NOT AFTER I AM FINISHED WITH IT... TONIGHT.
NOW... I HAVE WATCHED THE TECHNO MAGES MANIPULATE THE CURSED THING--
--WITH THIS PITIFUL DEVICE.
AND I BELIEVE IT IS THIS BUTTON WHICH--
BAY 2
--YES, IT WORKS! THE FOUL THING IS COMPLETELY IN MY COMMAND!


AND NOW, IT IS A SIMPLE MATTER TO GUIDE THE MINDLESS THING TO THE SACRED POOL OF DARK LIFE -- WHERE IT SHALL BE DESTROYED BY THE ANCIENT POWER OF SORCERY!
DESCEND, FOUL MECH-MONSTER -- DESCEND INTO THE HOT BLOOD OF THE EARTH ITSELF --
--WHERE YOU WILL MELT AND BE-COME ONE WITH THE EARTH'S MOLTEN HEART--
-- SOMEDAY TO BE REBORN AS THE LIVING FLESH OF A TRUE SERVANT OF EVIL --
SPSHSHSH
--A GLORIOUS CREATION OF THE ARCANE RITES OF SORCERY!
BY THE LEFT HAND OF CHAOS AND THE RIGHT HAND OF EVIL, I COMMAND YOU TO--!!
HALT, MAGAR! YOUR PRESENCE AT THE POOL OF DARK LIFE CANNOT BE PERMITTED!
WHAT--?

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

GET AWAY FROM ME, YOU FOOLS! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--!
WE REGRET, MAGAR THAT YOU ARE WRONG. WE KNOW YOU WERE ATTEMPTING TO PERFORM THE ARCANE RITES--
--RITUALS ONLY LORD MAUR-KON IS ALLOWED TO PERFORM.
YOU HAVE COMMITTED A GRAVE TRANS-GRESSION, MAGAR AND YOU MUST COME WITH US.
NO!!
YOU'VE ALREADY INTERRUPTED THE RITES, YOU FOOLS!
WHO
I MUST COMPLETE THEM BEFORE-
GREEEAHRRR
NO!!
--OH, NO.
IT'S ALIVE!
THE MECH-MONSTER HAS BEEN INSTILLED WITH SORCEROUS LIFE!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

INSTEAD OF DESTROYING IT WITH SORCERY, MY INTERRUPTED SCHEME, HAS DONE THE OPPOSITE--
--BRINGING THE FOUL MACHINE TO A STATE OF ANIMAL-LIKE SENTIENCE!
CHOOM
CHOOM
KROOM
IT IS NOW A COMBINATION OF SCIENCE AND SORCERY-- BUT COMPLETELY BERSERK BLASTING A HOLE THROUGH THE SOLID ROCK WALL!
GREEAHRR
IT'S ESCAPING-- FREE!
AND IT'S COMPLETELY UNCONTROLLABLE-- INTENT ON DESTRUCTION!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO-- NOTHING ANYONE CAN DO --TO STOP IT!
SHOGUN SANCTUARY: AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DAY'S TRAINING ..
..TAKE COMBATRA OUT FOR SOME TESTS, DR TAMBURA? I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT A FEW OF THE THINGS I'VE LEARNED TODAY, AND ALSO SIGHT-SEE THE AREA.
NOW, GENJI ODASHU?
BUT IT IS DARK...
THAT'S FINE WITH ME. I'M A TEST PILOT, REMEMBER, AND I'VE ALWAYS PREFERRED NIGHT-FLIGHTS. IT'S MORE PEACEFUL...
WELL... I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT PERMISSION GRANTED.

FIVE MINUTES LATER, THE ROOF OF THE LAUNCH SILO DILATES OPEN--
AND COMBATRA, PERHAPS THE MOST VERSATILE AND COMPLEX OF ALL THE SHOGUN WARRIORS, STREAKS INTO THE NIGHT SKY ABOVE SANCTUARY--
--AS INSIDE THE ROBOT'S GIGANTIC HEAD...
THIS IS WONDERFUL--A FEELING OF TOTAL COMMAND OVER IMMENSE POWER.
IT MAKES A JET SEEM LIKE A MERE TOY.
I'M REALLY ANXIOUS TO TEST COMBATRA'S FIVE-WAY MODULE-SPLIT...
...BUT FIRST I THINK I'LL JUST CRUISE AROUND--FIND THE CITY AND SEE HOW IT LOOKS AT NIGHT...
THERE IT IS UP AHEAD, AND THE LIGHTS ARE EVEN BRIGHTER THAN I--
--WAIT A MINUTE--THOSE AREN'T LIGHTS!
THEY'RE FLAMES! PART OF THE CITY IS BURNING!!
GREEAHH

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

IT'S SOME KIND OF MECHANICAL MONSTER--LIKE A ROBOT--
--BUT IT SEEMS TO BE ALIVE!

THAT MEANS MAUR-KON AND HIS CRONIES HAVE ALREADY LAUNCHED ANOTHER ATTACK OF EVIL, CREATING THIS NEW MONSTER...
CHOOM
UHN!!

...BUT IT'S SO DIFFERENT FROM ROK-KORR--BIGGER, MORE AWESOME, MORE TERRIFYING!
KOOM

FORTUNATELY, THE STREETS SEEM DESERTED--PROBABLY EVACUATED...
BUT I'VE STILL GOT TO STOP THE THING--FAST!

TEK TEK TEK
CIRCUIT BREAKERS
FUSES
IT'S GOT ENOUGH RAW POWER TO DEMOLISH THE ENTIRE CITY IN A MATTER OF HOURS!

LET'S SEE IF I CAN SLOW IT DOWN WITH COMBATRA'S FINGERTIP BULLET-MISSILES....!
SHABOOM
UHN! ITS TAIL-- UNLEASHING AN INCREDIBLE BARRAGE OF ENERGY-- ALMOST A COMBINATION OF LASER-FIRE AND ACTUAL FLAME!
I'M GOING TO NEED HELP...
SPRZZT
THIS IS COMBATRA CALLING SANCTUARY! COME IN, SANCTUARY!
A GIGANTIC MECHANICAL MONSTER HAS ATTACKED THE CITY! CONDITION ULTRA-RED!
I NEED IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE! REPEAT: I NEED--!
REPEAT UNNECESSARY! COMBATRA. SANCTUARY READS YOU. RAYDEEN AND DANGARD ACE WILL BE DISPATCHED IMMEDIATELY.
YOU HEAR THAT, SAVAGE? GENJI'S IN TROUBLE--- COME ON!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU, CARSON.

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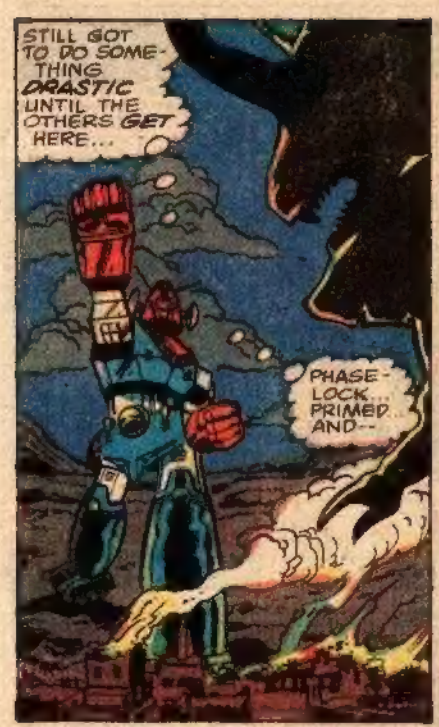

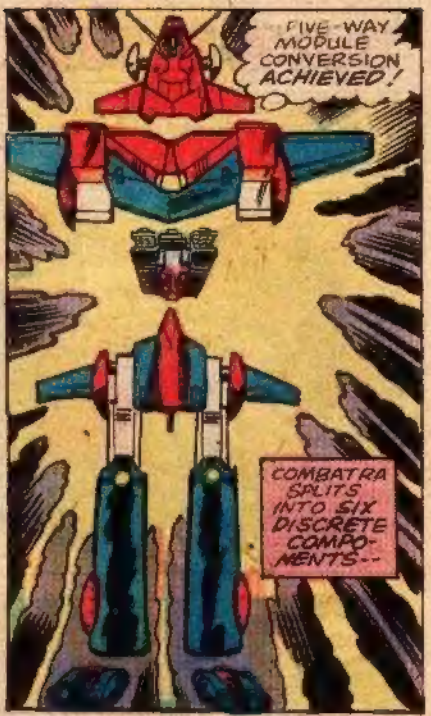

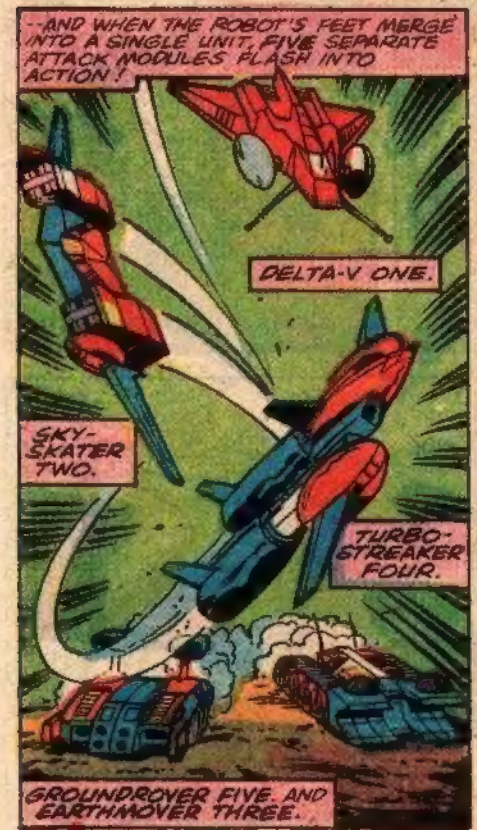
--AND WHEN THE ROBOT'S FEET MERGE INTO A SINGLE UNIT, FIVE SEPARATE ATTACK MODULES FLASH INTO ACTION!
DELTA-V ONE.
SKY-SKATER TWO.
TURBO-STREAKER FOUR.
GROUNDROVER FIVE AND EARTHMOVER THREE.

IF I HAD EXPERIENCE, THIS SITUATION WOULD BE DIFFICULT ENOUGH-- BUT AS IT STANDS, WILL EVEN A FIVE-PRONGED ATTACK BE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT THIS CREATURE?!
GREEARRRR
AND, VALIANT BUT DESPERATELY UNCERTAIN, GENJI COMMANDS THE SEPERATE MODULES FROM DELTA-V ONE...

NEXT ISSUE: THE FURTHER EDUCATION OF COMBATRA TIMES FIVE--IN A FRANTIC BATTLE TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS--PLUS A SHOCKINGLY UNEXPECTED PLOT TWIST, WHEN GENJI ODASHU VENTURES--

INTO THE LAIR OF DEMONS!